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00862.022443.

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Technology Center 2100

In re Application of:)	
	:	Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
HIDEKI INA ET AL.)	
	:	Group Art Unit: 2121
Appln. No.: 09/988,875)	
	:	
Filed: November 21, 2001)	
	:	
For: INDUSTRIAL MACHINE)	
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND	:	
METHOD)	February 15, 2002

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

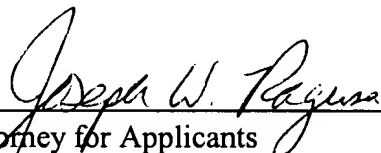
In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

For a concise explanation of the relevance of Japanese Patent No. JP11015520, the Examiner is referred to the discussion at page 5, lines 1-12, of the specification, and the attached English Abstract. European Patent EP 0822473 A2 is in the same patent family.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants
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APPLICATION NO.
09/988,875

APPLICANT
HIDEKI INA ET AL.

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)

FILING DATE
November 21, 2001

GROUP 2121

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PARENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
	JP	11015520	01/22/99	Japan			ABSTRACT
	EP	0822473 A2	02/04/98	European			YES

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.